

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-20 are pending, of which claims 1, 11, 13 and 19 are independent.

Claims 1, 11, 13 and 19 have been amended to correct informalities in the claim language and to incorporate the allowable subject matter of original claim 9. Claim 9 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claim 16 has been amended to correct informalities in the claim language. Care has been taken to avoid introducing new matter.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter of claims 5-10 and 16-18 if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Although Applicant agrees that the claims 5-10 and 16-18 are patentable, it is respectfully submitted that the allowable claims should be entitled to the broadest reasonable interpretation and to the broadest range of equivalents that are appropriate in light of the language of the claims and the supporting disclosure, without reference to the statement of reasons for allowance stated in the present Office Action.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments made to the claims overcome this rejection. The amendment is supported by, for example, FIG. 3 and the corresponding description thereof in the specification (page 8, line 15 to page 10, line 17). FIG. 3 illustrates the structure of a control packet for music content recorded in the DVD 30, i.e., a first recording medium.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 1-4, 11-15, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Asano et al. (US 6,978,377). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Applicant respectfully submits that since independent claims 1, 11, 13 and 19 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of original claim 9, claims 1, 11, 13 and 19 and all claims dependent thereon are patentable over the cited references. Thus, it is requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1-4, 11-15, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

CONCLUSION

Having fully responded to all matters raised in the Office Action, Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance, an indication for which is respectfully solicited. If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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